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BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1951

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Alderman E.J. Herington, J.P.

Vice-Chairman

Alderman R.W. Pearson, M.C., M.B., J.P.

The Mayor

Councillor L.A. Franklin, J.P.

The Deputy Mayor

Councillor E.J. Millard.

Councillor Mrs. M.J. Harborough.

Councillor Miss M.E. Langford.

Councillor A. G. Whittaker, J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

V.P. Googhogan, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Engineer

H.W. Simmonds, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.

Clerical Staff.

Mrs. L. Stevens

Miss M. Osborne.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
ARUNDEL.

July, 1952.

TO: His Worship The Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Fourth Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during 1951.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the Borough's population at mid-1951 was 2,650, a decrease of 110 when compared with the mid-1950 estimate.

The Principal Vital Statistics were :-

			<u>Arundel Borough.</u>		<u>England & Wales.</u>	
			<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Population	..	..	2650	2760	-	-
Birth Rate per 1,000						
population	..		14.71	13.40	15.5	15.8
Crude Death Rate per						
1,000 population			14.71	14.85	12.5	11.6

The fluctuations in Birth and Death rates which occur from year to year are of little significance in a small population as small changes in the totals of births and deaths influence the rates per thousand more obviously than in large populations.

The prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough in the middle months of the year caused notifications of those two diseases to reach totals much higher than in any year since 1941.

The attention of parents is drawn to the importance of Diphtheria Immunisation. No one who has seen a serious case of Diphtheria would willingly withhold this chance of protection from a child, yet the proportion of children in England who are being inoculated falls far short of the level which is necessary to keep this dangerous disease permanently at bay.

I wish to express my thanks to the members of the Council for their help, to Mr. H.W. Simmonds, your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, who has supplied most of the material for the Report, and also to Mr. J. Westbrook, Chief Clerk in the Chichester Rural District Health Department, who has been largely responsible for its preparation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

V.P. GEORGEHAN

Medical Officer of Health.

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

This small country town lying on the banks of the river Arun is a shopping centre for the surrounding villages. The population finds employment in agriculture and its ancillary industries, on the Norfolk Estate and in the retail and catering trades encouraged by the increasing number of summer visitors.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	2,054
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population (1950 mid-year)	2,760
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population (1951 mid-year)	2,650
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1951)	858
Ratable Value (1st January, 1952)	£ 21,102
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£ 84

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

ARUNDEL BOROUGH						BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION				
Total Number (after adjustment for transfers)						Birth Rate per 1,000 population		West Sussex England and Wales		
Year	Total	Sex		Illegitimate		Crude Corr.		Rural (Uncorrected)	Urban	and Walcs
		M	F	No.	%					
1950	37	19	18	-	-	13.40	15.14	14.27	12.46	15.8
1951	39	20	19	2	5.12	14.71	16.62	14.01	11.73	15.5

Stillbirths.

Total Number (after adjustment for transfers)				Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Rate per 1,000 population
Year	Total	Sex			
		M	F		
1950	Nil	-	-	-	-
1951	2	1	1	48.78	0.75

Deaths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH						WEST SUSSEX		ENGLAND AND WALES
Total Deaths (after adjustment for transfers)				Death Rates per 1,000 population		Death Rate per 1,000 population (Uncorrected)		Death Rate per 1,000 population
Year	Total	Sex		Crude	Corr.	Rural Districts	Urban Districts	
		M	F					
1950	41	17	24	14.85	10.69	12.50	15.47	11.6
1951	39	20	19	14.71	10.59	12.72	16.32	12.5

The chief causes of death in order of frequency were :-

(i)	Diseases of the heart & circulatory system	..	12	(16)
(ii)	Cancer		..	11 (6)
(iii)	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	6	(7)
(iv)	Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis)	..	4	(4)

(The figures in parentheses are those for the year 1950)

The above four causes accounted for 33 or 84% of the total deaths recorded during the year.

Of the total deaths, 26 or 66% occurred in persons aged 65 years or over, and 18 or 46% occurred in persons aged 75 years or over.

A table at the end of this Section shows the ages, sex distribution and causes of death in 1951.

Maternal Mortality.

No deaths were registered as directly due to pregnancy or child-bearing.

Infant Mortality.

No deaths of infants under one year of age were recorded during 1951, as compared with one death during the previous year.

The Infant Death Rates for England and Wales, and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex, are shown in the following table of comparative statistics :-

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>West Sussex</u>		<u>Arundel Borough</u>	
		<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births ..	29.6	24.	25.	Nil	27.02
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births ..	0.79	0.5	0.5	Nil	Nil
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 popu. X	0.31	0.20	0.20	Nil	Nil
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 population ..	-	2.82	2.28	4.15	2.17

X This rate includes deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life
during the Year 1951.

No deaths occurred from the following causes :-

<u>R.G. List No.</u>	<u>Cause.</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms.
3.	Syphilitic discaso.
4.	Diphthoria
5.	Whooping Cough
6.	Meningococcal infections.
7.	Acute poliomyelitis.
8.	Measles.
10.	Malignant neoplasms, stomach.
15.	Leukaemia, leukaemia.
16.	Diabetes.
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.
31.	Congenital malformations.
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.
34.	All other accidents.
35.	Suicide.
36.	Homicide and operations of war.

R.G. List No.	CAUSES OF DEATH - 1951	Sex	All Ages	Ages							
				15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-
	All Causes	M	20	1	-	2	3	2	5	6	1
		F	19	-	-	-	1	4	3	9	2
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases:	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Malignant neoplasms, lung, bronchus:	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
		F	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
12	ditto, breast:	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
13	ditto, uterus:	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms:	M	4	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system:	M	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
18	Coronary disease, angina:	M	4	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
19	Hypertension with heart dis.	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
20	Other heart disease:	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
21	Other circulatory disease:	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
22	Influenza:	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
23	Pneumonia:	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
24	Bronchitis:	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis:	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate:	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
32	Other defined and ill- defined diseases:	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Hospitals.

The hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents of the Borough are administered by the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through Hospital Management Committees. The hospitals are :

St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.
Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester.
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
Worthing Hospital.
Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington.
Aldingbourne House Sanatorium.
Bognor Annex to Aldingbourne House (formerly part of
Isolation Hospital).
Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing.
Arundel and District Hospital.

Laboratory Service.

The Public Health Laboratory at Milton Road, Portsmouth, carries out all public health work for the Council.

The following examinations were made during the year :-

(a) Water examinations	..	43
(b) Milk examinations	..	60

Ambulances.

The Local Health Authority (the West Sussex County Council) provides an ambulance service with ambulances operating from Littlehampton.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases are stationed at Chichester, Bognor Regis, Worthing and Horsham.

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

The West Sussex County Council provides nursing services. One District Nurse in Arundel is responsible for Home Nursing, Midwifery, School and Health Visiting duties.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres-	)	
Ante-Natal Clinics	-)	held at Arundel,
School Clinics (Minor Ailments)	-)	Chichester and
Eye Clinics	-)	Littlehampton.
Orthopaedic Clinic	-)	
Speech Therapy Clinic	-)	held at Chichester.
Aural Clinic	-)	
Tuberculosis Dispensary	-	held at Aldingbourne House Sanatorium.
Veneral Diseases Clinics	-	held at Worthing Hospital, and St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was necessary under Sections 47 or 50 of this Act.

Section III

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA..

Water Supply.

No changes have been made during the year to the water supply of the Borough which is provided by the Duke of Norfolk from a bore hole and well situated in Mill Road near Swanbourne Lake, and pumped unfiltered to a reservoir. Water consumed in the Borough is purchased in bulk, is chlorinated at the Waterworks by the Corporation before distribution, and a constant supply is maintained to almost every house in the Borough. Only two isolated cottages lying a great distance from the mains remain on well supply. The quantity of water available is estimated to be sufficient for the steady development of the area for many years to come.

No new sources have been developed, but two new 4" mains with a total length of 234 yards have been laid during the year by the Corporation, including the installation of one fire hydrant and two sluice valves.

As in previous years specimens of raw water from both the bore hole and the well, and of chlorinated water from consumers' taps, were submitted for bacteriological examination at regular intervals, a total of 43 samples being submitted. Of the 28 samples of untreated water examined, 3 were reported upon as being of satisfactory bacterial purity, 8 showed slight or moderate contamination, whilst the remaining 17 specimens showed marked degrees of bacterial contamination probably of soil or vegetable origin with possible animal pollution. Contamination was most marked in March and September, and special investigations were immediately made at the time to ascertain the causes but without satisfactory conclusion. Fifteen samples of chlorinated water taken from consumers' taps were found to be of satisfactory purity with one exception - this was taken whilst the Chlorinator was not working. The bacterial quality of the water therefore is at times dependent upon efficient chlorination and steps have been taken to ensure that interruption of chlorination does not occur.

Samples were also submitted during the year for full chemical analysis from both the bore and well and were reported upon as of good quality.

Water statistics for the year ending 31st March, 1951.

<u>Water consumption in Borough.</u>	<u>Gallons.</u>	
	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Per Day.</u>
(1) Domestic and unmetered supplies	36,031,627	98,716
(2) Industrial & trade supplies by meter	<u>3,414,831</u>	<u>9,356</u>
Total for area of supply	<u>39,446,458</u>	<u>108,072</u>

<u>Supplies through Corporation Mains for Fitzalan-Howard Estates Ltd., under Water Agreement.</u>		<u>Gallons.</u>	
	<u>Total</u>		<u>Per Day.</u>
(a) Consumed in Borough	625,515		1,713
(b) To outside Borough	13,975,415		38,289
Totals ..	<u>14,600,930</u>		<u>40,002.</u>

Increased consumption of all water supplied
by the Corporation over the year 1950 ... 3,259,768 8,930

Maximum weekly consumption ... 845,880 gallons.
Minimum weekly consumption ... 658,080 gallons.

Gallons per head per day (exclusive of
metered supplies) 37.6 gallons

Gallons per head per day (inclusive of
metered supplies) 40.3 gallons

Number of metered supplies ... 31

Amount paid to Fitzalan-Howard Estates Ltd.
for bulk supplies £ 821.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out during the year in the detection of misuse and wastage of water. Many defective appliances were found and rectified, and leaks repaired. Whilst the installation of modern sanitary appliances in many of the older houses, and the erection of new houses, undoubtedly influenced the rise of consumption, it was largely attributed to the enormous wastage found in defective appliances, services, etc.

One 5" water main was burst in two places through tree felling and a section was renewed.

The Corporation own approximately $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles of water mains.

At the end of the year the Corporation were in negotiation with the Fitzalan-Howard Estates, Ltd. who had given notice under the Water Agreement for a revised tariff.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No alteration in the methods of sewage treatment and disposal at either of the Council's Sewage Disposal Works was made during the year.

The sludge from the works is used by local market gardeners.

At the Ford Road Sewage Works a new sludge pump has been brought into operation. Two new penstocks have been fitted to the sedimentation tanks and five others are being overhauled and repaired.

No complaints were received regarding either of the Works during the year.

Owing to the heavy rainfall during the year a very considerable increase in pumping has taken place at the Fitzalan Road Works.

The tidal arm on the sewer outfall on Constable's Wharf broke on two occasions due to extremely high tides coinciding with very heavy rainfall. This unfortunately caused back flooding in the Queen's Lane area.

Flooding of the houses in River Road took place in December, mainly through the River Arun overflowing its banks in several places at an abnormally high tide. The greater flooding was preceded by the back flooding of the storm water sewers in this area which empty to the river.

In Fitzalan Road flooding revealed that the 6" soil sewer outfall to the river was blocked. Upon investigation it was found that the cast iron outfall pipe running through the bank had collapsed. The section through the bank was satisfactorily relaid between tides and the opportunity taken of renewing one penstock and repairing another. Flooding in this area also occurred on another occasion when the operator failed to close the penstocks before the tide reached the outfall.

Excavations by the G.P.O. revealed some 40' of 9" foul sewer in Queen's Lane to be in a very defective condition and this section was immediately relaid.

The oak tidal flap to the river on the storm water sewer outfall in Arun Street collapsed and was renewed.

Flooding of the Plantation occurred due to the defective and choked condition of the culvert under Ford Road at this point. The matter was referred to the West Sussex County Council who remedied the matter by renewing the culvert.

New foul sewers laid to the new Council Housing Estate were 207 yards of 6" piping. New storm water sewer laid consisted of 90 yards of 6". Approximately 150 yards of 4" storm water sewer was also laid in Priory Road. Some 30' of 12" storm water culvert was put in Canada Road together with approximately 80' of open ditching.

Five defective street manhole covers to the foul sewers were replaced during the year.

Five more of the few remaining earth closets in the Borough were converted to water closets.

A start has been made on the plan of the sewers in the Borough as required by the Public Health Act, 1936.

Rivers and Streams.

No action was necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

Five vessels are harboured to wharves in the Borough, three of which are still being permanently used for habitation by four families.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse throughout the Borough continues to be carried out weekly by the Corporation. Trade refuse is also removed by arrangement on request.

The Council continued the salvage of waste paper, textiles, etc. and entered the National Waste Paper Salvage Competition.

The collection and sale of salvaged materials during 1951 was as follows :-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Revenue.</u>		
				<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Waste Paper and Books	43	-	3	666.	18.	2.
Textiles		15	2	38.	5.	8.
Non-ferrous metals ..		4	2	28.	2.	9.
Ferrous metals ..	3	10	3	16.	3.	0.
Bottles		3	-			
Totals	47	14	2	£ 749.	9.	7.

The salvage figures show a very considerable increase over the previous year, mainly accounted for by the greater tonnage of paper salvaged. The salvage of bottles and scrap metals was recommenced as markets were again favourable.

No refuse tipping has taken place in the Old Quarry at Scotland Barn and controlled tipping has continued satisfactorily at the Canada Road site. It is hoped to level this site of approximately 1.4 acres lying between Canada and Pearson Roads and later convert it into a playing field. The tipping has been carried out very efficiently and it is already clear how great an improvement the filling of this area will be. Approximately three-quarters of an acre has now been filled and awaits final levelling.

During 1951 the fire which has been burning for many years in the old Canada Road refuse tip was cut out and finally extinguished.

The Corporation continues to give assistance to the County Council in the clearance of snow and dealing with icing conditions on all roads in the Borough.

The scavenging of both County and District Roads by the Corporation has continued throughout the year as has also the routine emptying of street gullies in the District Roads.

Shops Act, 1934.

During the year, 12 visits were made to shops in the District. As a result of these inspections, three defects were found, all of which have been remedied.

Sunday Closing of Shops Acts, 1936.

It was not found necessary during the year to take any formal action under the above Acts.

Two verbal warnings were, however, given to traders but generally the Acts were well observed.

Smoke Abatement.

There has been no need for any action in this direction.

Swimming Baths.

By resolution of the Corporation in April, 1950, the open air swimming baths were closed to the public as the water supply and sanitary facilities were considerably below the Ministry of Health Model standards for such premises. The Council considered that the time was inopportune to expend the large sum of money necessary to raise the baths to the approved standard.

The Baths have now been closed since the end of the 1949 season and the premises are rapidly becoming derelict. Considerable damage is being done both by the elements and vandals.

In order that the sides of the baths do not cave in it is necessary to keep water in the baths. Such water would become stagnant and offensive if left for any period of time. To overcome this the sluice valves to the river have been left open this year, thus enabling the baths to fill and empty with the tides.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Fleas.

During the year two complaints regarding flea infestations were received. Upon investigation, these complaints were substantiated and the premises fumigated by the Council's employees. One house required four treatments before disinfection was completed.

No infestations by bed bugs were reported or found.

Two cases of scabies were referred to hospital for treatment.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

One site in the Borough is licensed for camping purposes under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It comprises .715 of an acre, is licensed to hold 2 caravans and 1 tent, and has a main water supply and dry conservancy sanitary facilities.

No formal action was necessary during the year in this direction. Tents and vans of fairs and a circus which visited the Borough during the year were well managed and by co-operation of the landowner, adequate sanitary provisions were made.

Twelve visits of inspection were made to vans and sheds being permanently used for human habitation. At the end of the year, however, only one such structure was being so used.

The Corporation have not adopted Byclaws to control Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The West Sussex No. 2 Workable Area Committee set up in 1944 has continued to meet quarterly in Littlehampton, the Sanitary Inspector being the representative of the Borough on this Committee.

During the year, 12 complaints regarding rats were received. These were found to be minor infestations and were dealt with by the Council's part-time Rodent Operator.

As a result of independent investigations, 16 minor rat infestations were discovered and dealt with. No infestations were referred either to the Agricultural Executive Committee or the Arun Catchment Board.

Successful action in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were carried out to eradicate all infestations. The known kill for the year was 105 rats.

It has been considered unnecessary to take any action regarding the baiting of sewers as inspection of several manholes has revealed no evidence of infestation.

Schools.

No major sanitary alterations have been carried out at either of the two schools in the Borough.

Factories Act, 1937.

On the Factory Register there are 42 factories and workplaces in the Borough, of which 26 are provided with mechanical power.

Visits to factories with mechanical power	..	28
Visits to factories without mechanical power	..	4
Visits to workplaces	..	1
Number of defects found	..	10
Number of defects remedied	..	11

Details of Sanitary Work and Improvements under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

Inspections with regard to infectious disease	..	3
Promises disinfected after infectious disease	..	1
Visits to Sewage Works	..	10
Visits to Offices	..	3
Visits to Marine Stores	..	2
Visits to Fried Fish Shops	..	3
Visits to Public Conveniences ..	..	19
Visits to Food Premises	..	12
Visits to Ice Cream Premises	..	3
Visits to Butchers' Shops	..	6
Visits to Dairies	..	8
Visits to Tents, Vans and Sheds ..	..	11
Inspections under the Building Byclaws	..	160
Inspections regarding dangerous structures	..	10
Dustbins provided	..	34
Drains tested	..	41
Drains re-laid	..	5
Drains cleared	..	9
New drains laid	..	37
Earth Closets converted to Water Closets	..	5
Houses connected to main drainage	..	14
Houses connected to water main ..	..	20
Visits in connection with water supplies and appliances	..	148
Visits to Refuse Disposal Tips ..	..	33
Miscellaneous inspections	..	154
Re-visits	..	192

Summary.

Total number of inspections made for all purposes	..	1,146
Total number of notices served:		
(a) Informal	..	43
(b) Statutory	..	3
Total number of summonses issued	..	Nil
Total number of complaints received	..	48
Total number of nuisances found	..	54
Total number of nuisances abated	..	57

Section IV.

HOUSING.

Housing still continues to be a major problem of the Borough. No extensive programme of repair or improvement of existing houses has been carried out during the year, but a large number of Civil Building Licences granted have been for repair, reconstruction and improvement of such houses. This has been most noticed where houses have recently become owner-occupied, largely due to the property sales of the Fitzalan-Howard Estates, Limited.

Many houses within the Borough are of considerable age, lack modern amenities and are in such a condition as to be incapable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost.

The Corporation has endeavoured to continue to carry out an effective policy of demolition and closing of houses in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation. This is, however, an extremely difficult policy to pursue at the present time in view of the general housing shortage. During the past five years, 23 such houses have been demolished in the Borough and another 5 closed. Two demolition orders made during the year await clearance.

During the year the Corporation acquired a row of seven old terrace houses which they intend to demolish as soon as possible. Two of the houses are now empty and await demolition.

The application register for Council Houses was reviewed in November, and at the close of the year recorded some 97 applicants, chiefly from persons residing or working within the Borough; **applications are not otherwise accepted.**

The Corporation at present own 164 houses, bungalows and flats.

Control of Civil Building.

The Town Clerk and Surveyor continued to act as Licensing Officers on behalf of the Ministry of Works and dealt with 43 applications. Licences were issued to the value of £19,275. No applications were refused, but three licences were revoked.

In connection with those licences and with licences granted by the Ministry of Works, 52 visits were made. Two suspected contraventions were investigated, but it was not found necessary to use the powers of prosecution conferred on the Corporation by the Ministry of Works.

Requisitioning of Property.

The property No. 61 High Street, under requisition since 1946, was purchased by the Corporation in 1950 and the requisitioning terminated.

The tenants of two of the four flats were rehoused by the Council and the first and second floors of the building converted into Municipal Offices in July, 1951.

No property is now requisitioned for housing purposes in the Borough.

New Building.

(a) Council Houses.

Six houses and 4 bungalows were completed and occupied during the year. Two houses were also handed over to the Forestry Commissioners.

Under construction at the end of the year were 2 houses and 2 bungalows for the Corporation, and 6 houses for the Forestry Commissioners in Pearson Road No. 1 Scheme. On No. 2 Pearson Road Scheme the same Contractors have in course of erection 18 three-bedroomed houses. The works necessary in respect of Pearson Road No. 1 Scheme were nearly completed, and on No. 2 Scheme all the houses are at various stages of construction. Sewers, water mains and road works are finished.

The Council have decided as the next stage in their housing policy to develop the area of land already acquired between Pearson and Canada Roads. Some ten acres of woodland have been cleared of trees during the year as preparatory site works.

Tenders were invited in November for the extension of Canada Road together with works of sewage and water mains, etc. The successful tender was with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government at the close of the year awaiting approval. These road works are essential for the 1952 housing programme as no other available sites are ready for building operations.

The Council's housing allocation for 1952 is 20 houses and they have provisionally decided that 12 or 14 Council houses shall be erected in Canada Road. This will be the third stage of the comprehensive scheme approved by the Ministry of Health for 98 houses in the Stewards Copse Area.

The Council had to obtain a County Court Ejectment Order against one of their tenants during the year owing to the filthy condition of the house.

Two tenants of three-bedroomed houses were transferred at their request to new bungalows.

(b) Private Building.

Eight houses have been completed by private enterprise during the year and one further house was under construction. The building of six of these houses had commenced in 1950.

The Corporation decided that at least six of their 1952 allocation of houses should be for private enterprise.

Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	67
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	135
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ..	29
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	78
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	89

2. Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority ..	90
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3. Remedying of defects during the year with service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action taken by the Local Authority ..	Nil
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4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :

(i) Houses demolished without resort to statutory action	2
(ii) Houses closed without resort to statutory action	2
(iii) Demolition Orders made	2

4. Action under Statutory Powers (contd.)

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(i) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(ii) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

5. Housing Act, 1936 -- Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	8
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	11
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..	73
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	2
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	5
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	22
(d) Number of cases in which dwelling houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ..	Nil

Civil Defence.

The Surveyor continues to act as Civil Defence Officer and a separate Committee has been established to deal with Civil Defence matters. The response to the call for volunteers has been very disappointing and at the close of the year only 18 recruits had been enrolled, most of whom had received some training. It is envisaged that the organisation will be very similar to that operating during the 1939/45 hostilities.

The Womens Voluntary Services have now recommenced operations in the Borough and have established a part-time office in the Council Offices.

The Council have appointed Capt. E.P. Hardman as Head Warden for the Borough.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.Milk Supply

All farms in the Borough are supplied with mains water. The position at the end of the year was as follows :-

No. of farms in the Borough	5
No. actually producing milk	3
No. of Dairymen (Milk Sellers)	4
No. of inspections made of Milkshops	8
No. of contraventions of the Regulations found ..	Nil

Milk Sampling.

Sixty samples of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested milks were taken during the year. The results were as follows :-

Designation	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue Test.	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	36	35	1
Tuberculin Tested	24	22	2
Totals	60	57	3

Owing to delay in transit 5 other samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were found to be unsuitable for examination upon arrival at the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth. An insulated container has now been purchased for the transport of all samples.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

The following licences were granted during 1951 :-

- (1) Supplementary licences to retail 'T.T.' Milk 5
- (2) Supplementary licences to retail 'Pasteurised' Milk 5

During the year, two samples of milk collected by the Sampling Officer of the West Sussex County Council were submitted for biological examination. These were reported upon as satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

The two private slaughter-houses in the Borough remained closed throughout the year except for the occasional slaughter of privately owned animals. The supplies for local butchers have continued to be

Meat and Other Foods (Contd.)

delivered from Worthing. Ten pigs and one calf were killed with the approval of the Ministry of Food, and the carcasses inspected.

Periodical inspections of butchers' shops and vehicles have been continued during the year, and the following quantities of meat, etc. have been surrendered and condemned :-

- 1 - Forequarter of English Pork.
- 1 - Buttock of English Beef.
- 5 - Tins Cooked Ham.
- 1 - Tin Corned Beef.
- 1 - Tin Corned Mutton.
- 12 - Tins Pork Luncheon Meat.
- 1 - Tin Braised Kidneys.
- 1 - Tin Braised Hearts.
- 1 - Tin Tongues.
- 2 - Tins Jellied Veal.

Total weight - 1 Cwt. 61 Lbs.

Details of inspections carried out during the year are as follows:-

(a) No. of inspections of butchers' shops	..	..	6
(b) No. of inspections of vehicles	..	..	3

No contraventions of the regulations were observed.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

During the period under review, seven renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Corporation.

Bakchouses.

There are four bakchouses in the Borough. Seven visits were made to these premises and two defects were observed. Two defects were remedied by the end of the year including one defect outstanding from 1950. One defect remained outstanding.

Ice Cream.

Eighteen premises in the Borough are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice cream, and one for manufacture. Other vendors visited the district during the year offering for sale ice cream manufactured elsewhere.

Ice Cream (Contd.)

Four samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis of fat content from retailers in the Borough, with the following results :-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Manufactured.</u>	
	<u>In Borough</u>	<u>Outside Borough</u>
1.	-	10.9%
2.	-	11.7%
3.	4.5%	-
4.	5.1%	-

No samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Food Adulteration.

The West Sussex County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. No details of the samples taken in the Borough are available.

Watercress.

Visits of inspection were paid to the watercress beds in the Borough and no complaints were received during the year.

Food Byelaws.

Byelaws concerning the 'Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air' have been made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. These were confirmed by the Ministry of Food on the 14th June, 1950.

Twelve visits of inspection under these Byelaws were made.

Generally, the cafes and food shops maintain a fair standard of cleanliness, but some of the premises in use are so old that it is almost impossible, without major structural alterations, to bring them up to the highest of standards.

Other Foods.

The following items of foodstuffs, weighing a total of 50 lbs., were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned :-

1 - Stone Soles	2 - Tins Tomatoes.
14 - Lbs. Smoked Haddock.	1 - Tin Meat Soup.
12 - Bars Chocolate.	1 - Tin Chicken Soup..
4 - Tins Salmon.	1 - Tin Mincedmeat.
3 - Tins Evaporated Milk.	1 - Tin Syrup.
1 - Tin Grapes.	4 - Tins Vegetables.
2 - Jars Apricot Jam.	

Fried Fish Shops.

Visits of inspection were made to the one Fish Frying Establishment in the Borough. Conditions were found to be satisfactory and no complaints regarding the premises have been received.

The premises were extensively damaged by fire during August, and have not been reopened since.

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Mortuary.

The Corporation own and maintain a mortuary which is situated in Ford Road. The building is well equipped and kept in a satisfactory condition.

Mosquito Control.

No action was considered necessary in regard to mosquito control.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no such premises within the Borough.

Petroleum and Carbide.

Eleven licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during 1951. The storage arrangements of the applicants were satisfactory.

Dangerous Structures.

Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 58.

Informal notices regarding the repair or removal of six dangerous buildings or structures were served during the year. In all cases the notices were complied with.

Street Lighting.

The Corporation is responsible for street lighting in the Borough and operate 126 street lamps by gas illumination. During the year two lamps were added to the lighting system.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES.

One hundred and twenty-seven cases of Measles and forty-four of Whooping Cough were notified during the year. This was the largest notified incidence of measles in the Borough since 1941 when the total was the same.

The Whooping Cough figure was the highest since 1944 when 56 cases were recorded.

Cancer.

Eleven deaths (5 male, 6 female) were attributed to cancer during the year as compared with six in 1950. The Cancer Death Rate for 1951 is 4.15 per 1,000 of the estimated home population, compared with a rate of 2.17 for the previous year. Corresponding rates for the Administrative County, and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex are 2.57., 2.82 and 2.28 respectively.

Chicken Pox.

A total of 124 cases of this disease were brought to the notice of the Department by the Head Teacher of the Arundel C.E. School. All the cases occurred during the last quarter of the year.

Diphtheria.

(a) Notifications. No cases of diphtheria were notified during 1951, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

(b) Supply of Diphtheria Anti-Toxin. Anti-toxin is obtainable by Medical Practitioners for the treatment of suspected cases and contacts from the Royal West Sussex Hospital and St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, and from the Isolation Hospital, Worthing.

(c) Immunisation. Sixty-four children under five years of age, and fourteen children over five years, but under fifteen years, received a complete course of protective inoculations during 1951. In addition, twenty-seven children received 'follow-up' injections.

There is danger in a growing complacency revealed by a recent Ministry of Health circular on diphtheria immunisation. Therein it is stated that the immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday is vital, but in fact only 28% of the children in England and Wales reaching the age of one year in 1951 were immunised.

Diphtheria is an uncommon disease at present, but it cannot remain so if the majority of children continue to go unprotected.

Dysentery.

One case of Dysentery (Shigella Sonne Type) was notified during the year - a male aged 17 years. The case was mild in character and it was not possible to trace the source of infection.

Measles.

One hundred and twenty-seven cases (57 male, 70 female) were notified during the year compared with seven during 1950. This is the largest total since 1941 when the same number were recorded. More than half of the cases (64) occurred in children between the ages of five and ten years.

The distribution of the notified cases is shown in the following table :-

Month	Age Distribution									Total
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	
April	-	2	2	2	2	16	2	-	-	26
May	3	3	4	8	9	27	5	-	2	61
June	-	-	3	2	2	20	-	-	-	27
July	1	2	3	3	2	1	-	-	-	12
August	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	4	7	12	16	15	64	7	-	2	127

Meningococcal Infections.

One case of Cerebro-spinal fever was notified during 1951. The patient, a male aged 5 years, was admitted to St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

Pneumonia.

Three cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia, and two of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, were notified during the year. Three cases occurred in January, and one each in February and November.

One death was attributed to this cause during 1951.

Tuberculosis.

Five cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were added to the notification register during 1951, as will be seen from the following table :-

Tuberculosis (Contd.)

Notification Register of Tubercular Patients - 1951.

		Pulmonary Cases			Non-Pulmonary Cases			Total Cases (all forms)		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1.	No. on Register at 1.1.51.	2	6	8	4	1	5	6	7	13
2.	Cases previously removed & returning during 1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	New cases notified (or otherwise coming to knowledge) in 1951:	5	-	5	-	-	-	5	-	5
	Totals	7	6	13	4	1	5	11	7	18
4.	Cases removed from Register during 1951:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	No. on Register 31.12.51.	7	6	13	4	1	5	11	7	18

For the third consecutive year no deaths were registered as due to this disease during 1951.

Whooping Cough.

Forty-four cases (22 male, 22 female) were notified during the year. Only one was notified in 1950. The previous highest total was 56 recorded in 1944.

Other Diseases.

No notifications were received during the year of the undermentioned diseases :-

Cholera	Food Poisoning	Poliomyelitis
Diphtheria	Malaria	Puerperal Pyrexia
Encephalitis (Acute)	Membranous Croup	Relapsing Fever
Enteric Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Scarlet Fever
Erysipelas	Plague	Smallpox
		Typhus

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1951

Disease	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Age Distribution												Total
			Under 1	1-3	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	127	-	4	7	12	16	15	64	7	-	2	-	-	-	127
Meningococcal inf.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	5
Whooping Cough	44	-	2	4	5	4	7	18	4	-	-	-	-	-	44
TOTALS	178	1	6	11	17	20	22	83	11	1	2	-	2	3	178

Details of Notifications received of Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough since 1941.

Disease	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Measles	127	2	39	9	21	-	2	17	52	7	127
Scarlet Fever	60	6	-	1	2	1	3	2	6	14	-
Whooping Cough	29	-	7	56	15	1	-	30	-	1	44

